

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 01566 090817Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 SAA-01 /061 W
-----069089 090819Z /21

R 090717Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6398
INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A MANAMA 1566

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, BA, ZP
SUBJ: GULF COOPERATION DISCUSSED DURING CAIRO

1. FOREIGN MINISTER TOLD ME JULY 4 THAT DURING CAIRO
AL MEETING ON YEMEN SITUATION GULF FOREIGN MINISTERS
HAD ALSO MET TO DISCUSS GULF SECURITY COOPERATION. HE
HE SAID GULF STATES AWARE THAT IRAN FEELS INITIATIVE
SHOULD COME FROM GULF ARABS. GULF ARABS, HOWEVER,
CAN NOT YET FIND A WAY TO GET AROUND POLITICAL PROBLEM
PRESENTED BY IRAQ. IT IS DIFFICULT TO HAVE FORMAL
COOPERATION AGREEMENTS OR ARRANGEMENTS WHICH LEAVE OUT
IRAQ AND YET IN VIEW OF IRAQIS' SUBVERSIVE INTENTIONS
AND ACTIVITIES IN LOWER GULF IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO INCLUDE
THEM.

2. I ASKED WHAT IF ANY CONCLUSION HAD BEEN REACHED BY
GROUP IN CAIRO. HE SAID, FIRST, THAT MINISTERS AGREED
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TO CONTINUE TO SEEK WAYS TO TEST IRAQI WILLINGNESS TO
IMPROVE ITS RELATIONS WITH GULF STATES. HOWEVER, THEY ALSO
AGREED TO MOVE AHEAD INFORMALLY TO IMPROVE AND EXPAND
ON EXISTING COOPERATIVE LINKS IN THE AREA. FOREIGN
MINISTERS AGREED TO
MEET AGAIN "SOON" ON THIS SUBJECT
BUT NO DATE WAS SET.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER SAID KUWAITIS FELT THAT IRAQ CAN BE
INDUCED TO BECOME "RESPECTABLE" BUT THAT BAHRAIN AND
NEIGHBORS TO THE SOUTH ARE VERY DOUBTFUL. HE SAID IRAQIS
OFTEN TALK REASONABLY TO OTHER ARABS BUT IRAQ'S NEIGHBORS
ARE AWARE THAT BAGHDAD REGIME CONTINUES TO TELL IRAQIS THAT
REGIME IS REVOLUTIONARY ONE WITH DUTY TO EXPORT THE
REVOLUTION. HARDLY AN APPROACH TO INSPIRE CONFIDENCE
IN LOWER GULF.
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